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RELEASE NO. 1593

"CODFISH BALLS"

By Frank Moser & Paul Terry
Paul Terry-Toons

The salty tang of the seafaring life makes itself felt at the outset as the lusty voices of a group of hardened tars ring out in harmony. One of them has a wooden stump for a leg. Another, separated from the group, has drawn a huge flagon of beer from a nearby keg and preceeds to drink 'er down. A tough tar does an energetic hornpipe, his stump leg marking the measure.

A goat on a kiddie car rides on deck, pushed intermittently by a mouse, who prances behind. The cart upsets the dancer, knocks him flat on his face, and blithely continues for another round on deck, Another upset, and the salt is furious. A terrific fight ensues, with the goat and the mouse aligned against the tar. The goat uses his horns to buck the seaman, who is hurled by the impact. Finding a convenient basket of eggs, the mouse adds to the seaman's discomfiture by throwing them at him and his crony. The assailant makes his escape up the ropes, followed by the enraged tar..they duel with knives at the edge of a sail mast..both fall into the water.

A whale! The bugler gives the signal--"Thar she blows." The mouse and the victim of his pranks are in a rowboat, the mouse rowing valiantly. As they approach the whale, the mouse is dangled like bait on the end of a line before the whale's head. The whale swallows the boat and its occupants--they fall into his stomach. But they make their way back up and slip out of the whale's mouth, with the beast in enraged pursuit. The mouse reaches the ship's side and ascends a rope ladder, with the seaman close behind. At the last moment, the tar's tail is caught in the whale's iron jaws. He fights his way loose and gets on board.

Seeking revenge, the seaman blindfolds the mouse, and, thrusting his his knife menacingly forward, makes the mouse walk the plank. Instead of going off into the sea, the mouse nimbly swings under the plank.

Meanwhile, a school of sharks swims into the ship's hold. They come upon the pair just at the moment when the mouse, firmly tied to a pole, is about to be stabbed. The sharks pursue the fleeing pair, and, the fish emerge from a porthole, the mouse whacks them. The mouse climbs up to the top of the mast, while the irate tars kick up blows with the end of their stumps. The mouse jumps from his perch into the sea, followed by the vengeful tar and the school of sharks.

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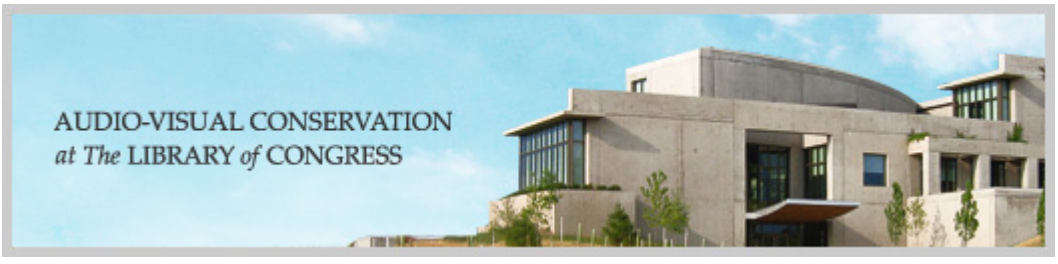

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